IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

OKUBO, ET AL.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: Novel Polypeptide having

Water Channel Activity and

DNA Sequence

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty Docket: 1581/00270

Soft WEND

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-captioned case as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Page 1, following the title, please insert:

update

--- Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a divisional of copending U.S. Patent Application S.N. 09/381,810 filed October 19, 1999, which is the national phase of PCT/JP98/01371 filed March 27, 1998 and claiming priority from Japanese Hei-9-094845 filed March 28, 1997.-- Now V.S. Ratent No. 6252046.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 and 4 without prejudice to their reentry at some later date.